

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 358

By Bass

A RESOLUTION to recognize Hershel Lake and his family for their dedication to the operation of radio station WKSR and their exceptional commitment to community service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable businesses whose owners have dedicated their personal efforts and excellence to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the owners and operators of Pulaski Broadcasting, Inc., are one such extraordinary group of business owners who have given generously of their time and energies to make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of many Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Hershel Lake and his family have owned and operated the beloved WKSR radio station under the umbrella of Pulaski Broadcasting, Inc. since 1979; and

WHEREAS, from the time they first took ownership of WKSR, the family has continued the radio station's outstanding commitment to community service that began in the early 1950s with the station's then owners, John R. "Happy" Stephens and his wife, Beechie; and

WHEREAS, the station devotes two Sundays each year to the worthy cause of raising money for local charities; programming is suspended at 12:30 p.m. to auction merchandise and services donated by local businesses, and the auction often runs as late as midnight in order to sell as many items as possible; and

WHEREAS, for many years, the auction was held at the radio station's facility, utilizing a side room to provide storage and retrieval space for the auctioned items; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, the auction site was moved to Holley's Printing in Pulaski, which is another Lake family-owned business; the move not only provided additional space to store the items, but also allowed easier access for many more people to enjoy the proceedings; and

WHEREAS, WKSR's auctions have benefited numerous worthy causes and organizations, including the March of Dimes, the local rescue squad, Martin Methodist College Library, New Canaan Ranch, Senior Citizen's Center, Hope House, Child Development Center, the 4-H Endowment program, and high school band programs; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that WKSR's auctions have raised more than \$1.1 million for charity since their inception in 1953, a remarkable achievement and a testament to the owners' and staff's dedication to community service; and

WHEREAS, for nearly thirty years, WKSR Radio and the Lake family have truly been catalysts for positive change in their community; and

WHEREAS, Hershel Lake and his family, along with the staff of WKSR Radio, are wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State" and should be specially recognized; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Hershel Lake and his family for their meritorious service to the good people of Tennessee, salute their unwavering commitment to community service as the owners of WKSR, and extend to them our best wishes for success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.